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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Herman Chien

APPLICATION No.: 09/665,780

FILED: September 20, 2000

FOR: **SUBSCRIPTION-BASED BILLING
METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR SHARED
NETWORK MODEM POOLS**

EXAMINER: DUC MINH NGUYEN

ART UNIT: 2643

Conf. No.: 6102

Amendment Under 37 CFR §1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

The present communication responds to the Office Action dated August 27, 2002 in the above-identified application. Please amend the application as follows. The attached Appendix presents a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment.

In the Claims:

Following is a complete listing of the claims pending in the application, as amended:

1. A method of billing a telephone call made through a network that utilizes a modem, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request from a user of the network to place a telephone call through the modem;

receiving user identifying information to authenticate the request as coming from a valid user of the network;

correlating the user identifying information with billing information associated with the user; and

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